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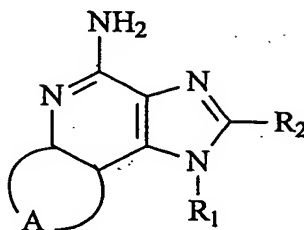
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The claimed invention is:

1. A compound of the formula I:



I

wherein

5 A is =N-CR=CR-CR=; =CR-N=CR-CR=; =CR-CR=N-CR=; or
=CR-CR=CR-N=;

R₁ is selected from the group consisting of:

- hydrogen;

10 -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl or C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more
substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-aryl;

-heteroaryl;

-heterocyclyl;

-O-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl,

15 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;

-C₁₋₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl;

-S(O)₀₋₂-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;

20 -S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;

-S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;

-S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;

-N(R₃)₂;

-N₃;

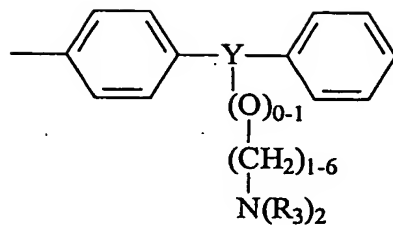
25 oxo;

-halogen;

-NO₂;
-OH; and
-SH; and

5 -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl-NR₃-Q-X-R₄ or -C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl-NR₃-Q-X-R₄ wherein Q is -CO- or -SO₂-; X is a bond, -O- or -NR₃- and R₄ is aryl; heteroaryl; heterocyclyl; or -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl or C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

10 -aryl;
 -heteroaryl;
 -heterocyclyl;
 -O-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl,
 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
15 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
 -C₁₋₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
20 -S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
 -N(R₃)₂;
 -NR₃-CO-O-C₁₋₂₀alkyl;
 -N₃;
 oxo;
25 -halogen;
 -NO₂;
 -OH; and
 -SH; or R₄ is



wherein Y is -N- or -CR-;

R₂ is selected from the group consisting of:

-hydrogen;

-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;

-C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl;

-aryl;

-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl -O-C₁₋₁₀-alkyl;

-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl-O-C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl; and

-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl or C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected

from the group consisting of:

-OH;

-halogen;

-N(R₃)₂;

-CO-N(R₃)₂;

-CO-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;

-N₃;

-aryl;

-heteroaryl;

-heterocyclyl;

-CO-aryl; and

-CO-heteroaryl;

each R₃ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁₋₁₀ alkyl; and

each R is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, C₁₋₁₀ alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} hydroxyalkyl.

3. A compound according to Claim 2 wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of n-butyl, 2-hydroxy-2-methylpropyl, and 2-methylpropyl.

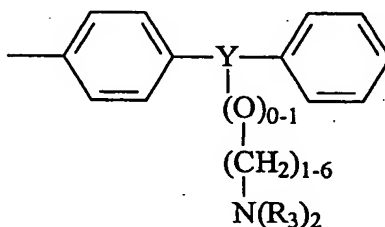
4. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} straight chain alkyl and alkoxyalkyl wherein the alkoxy moiety and the alkyl moiety each independently contain 1 to 4 carbon atoms.

5. A compound according to Claim 4 wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, n-butyl, benzyl, ethoxymethyl, and methoxyethyl.

6. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein each R is hydrogen.

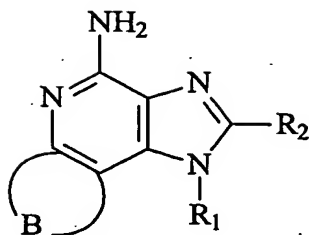
7. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein R_1 is $-C_{1-20}$ alkyl- NR_3 -Q-X- R_4 .

8. A compound according to Claim 7 wherein R_4 is



9. A compound according to Claim 1 wherein A is $=CH-CH=CH-N=$.

10. A compound of the formula II:



II

wherein

B is -NR-C(R)₂-C(R)₂-C(R)₂-; -C(R)₂-NR-C(R)₂-C(R)₂-;
-C(R)₂-C(R)₂-NR-C(R)₂- or -C(R)₂-C(R)₂-C(R)₂-NR-;

5 **R**₁ is selected from the group consisting of:

- hydrogen;

-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl or C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more
substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-aryl;

10 -heteroaryl;

-heterocyclyl;

-O-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl,

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;

15 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;

-C₁₋₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl;

-S(O)₀₋₂ -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;

-S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;

-S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;

20 -S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;

-N(R₃)₂;

-N₃;

oxo;

-halogen;

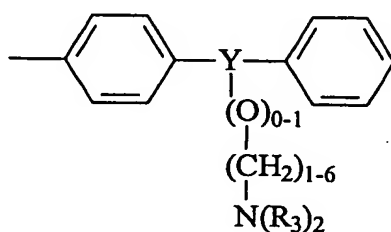
25 -NO₂;

-OH; and

-SH; and

-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl-NR₃-Q-X-R₄ or -C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl-NR₃-CO-X-R₄ wherein Q is -CO- or -SO₂-; X is a bond, -O- or -NR₃- and R₄ is aryl; heteroaryl; heterocyclyl; or -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl or C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-aryl;
-heteroaryl;
-heterocyclyl;
-O-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl,
-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
-C₁₋₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl;
-S(O)₀₋₂ -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;
-S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
-S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
-S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
-N(R₃)₂;
-NR₃-CO-O-C₁₋₂₀alkyl;
-N₃;
oxo;
-halogen;
-NO₂;
-OH; and
-SH; or R₄ is



wherein Y is -N- or -CR-;

R_2 is selected from the group consisting of:

- hydrogen;
- C_{1-10} alkyl;
- C_{2-10} alkenyl;
- aryl;
- C_{1-10} alkyl -O- C_{1-10} -alkyl;
- C_{1-10} alkyl-O- C_{2-10} alkenyl; and
- C_{1-10} alkyl or C_{2-10} alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected

from the group consisting of:

- OH;
- halogen;
- $N(R_3)_2$;
- CO- $N(R_3)_2$;
- CO- C_{1-10} alkyl;
- N_3 ;
- aryl;
- heteroaryl;
- heterocyclyl;
- CO-aryl; and
- CO-heteroaryl;

each R_3 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_{1-10} alkyl; and

each R is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{1-10} alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

11. A compound according to Claim 10 wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6} alkyl and C_{1-6} hydroxyalkyl.

12. A compound according to Claim 11 wherein R_1 is selected from the group consisting of n-butyl, 2-hydroxy-2-methylpropyl, and 2-methylpropyl.

13. A compound according to Claim 10 wherein R_2 is selected from the group consisting of methyl, n-butyl, benzyl, ethoxymethyl, and methoxyethyl.

14. A compound according to Claim 10 wherein each R is hydrogen.

15. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

16. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a pharmaceutically effective amount of a compound according to Claim 10 and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier.

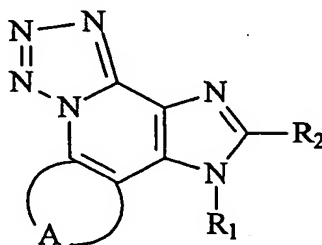
17. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 1 to the animal.

18. A method of inducing cytokine biosynthesis in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to Claim 10 to the animal.

19. A method of treating a viral infection in an animal comprising administering an effective amount of a compound according to claim 1 to the animal.

20. A method of treating a viral infection man animal comprising administering an effective amount of a compounds according to claim 10 to the aminal.

21. A compound of formula



wherein

A is $=N-CR=CR-CR=$; $=CR-N=CR-CR=$; $=CR-CR=N-CR=$; or $=CR-CR=CR-N=$;

R_1 is selected from the group consisting of:

- hydrogen;

-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl or C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-aryl;

5

-heteroaryl;

-heterocyclyl;

-O-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl,

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;

10

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;

-C₁₋₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl;

-S(O)₀₋₂-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;

-S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;

-S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;

15

-S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;

-N(R₃)₂;

-N₃;

oxo;

-halogen;

20

-NO₂;

-OH; and

-SH; and

-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl-NR₃-Q-X-R₄ or -C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl-NR₃-Q-X-R₄ wherein Q is -CO- or -SO₂-; X is a bond, -O- or -NR₃- and R₄ is aryl; heteroaryl; heterocyclyl; or -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl or C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-aryl;

-heteroaryl;

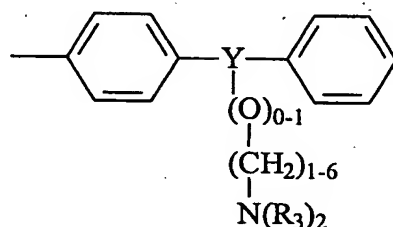
30

-heterocyclyl;

-O-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl,

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
 -C₁₋₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;
 5 -S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
 -N(R₃)₂;
 -NR₃-CO-O-C₁₋₂₀alkyl;
 10 -N₃;
 oxo;
 -halogen;
 -NO₂;
 -OH; and
 15 -SH; or R₄ is



wherein Y is -N- or -CR-;

R₂ is selected from the group consisting of:

-hydrogen;
 20 -C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;
 -C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl;
 -aryl
 -C₁₋₁₀ alkyl -O-C₁₋₁₀-alkyl;
 -C₁₋₁₀ alkyl-O-C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl; and
 25 -C₁₋₁₀ alkyl or C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected

from the group consisting of:

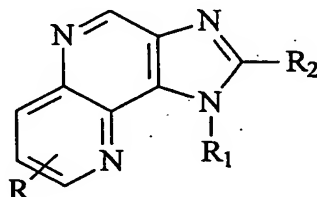
-OH;
 -halogen;

-N(R₃)₂;
-CO-N(R₃)₂;
-CO-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;
-N₃;
-aryl;
-heteroaryl;
-heterocyclyl;
-CO-aryl; and
-CO-heteroaryl;

each R₃ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁₋₁₀ alkyl; and

each R is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, C₁₋₁₀ alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

22. A compound of formula



wherein

R₁ is selected from the group consisting of:

- hydrogen;
-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl or C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-aryl;
-heteroaryl;
-heterocyclyl;
-O-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl,
-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;

5 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
 -C₁₋₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
 -N(R₃)₂;
 -N₃;
 10 oxo;
 -halogen;
 -NO₂;
 -OH; and
 -SH; and

15 -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl-NR₃-Q-X-R₄ or -C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl-NR₃-Q-X-R₄ wherein Q is -CO- or -SO₂-; X is a bond, -O- or -NR₃- and R₄ is aryl; heteroaryl; heterocyclyl; or -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl or C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

20 -aryl;
 -heteroaryl;
 -heterocyclyl;
 -O-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl,
 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
 25 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
 -C₁₋₂₀ alkoxy carbonyl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
 30 -S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
 -N(R₃)₂;

-NR₃-CO-O-C₁₋₂₀alkyl;

-N₃;

oxo;

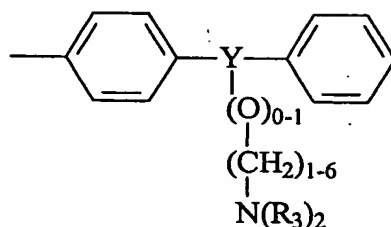
-halogen;

5

-NO₂;

-OH; and

-SH; or R₄ is



wherein Y is -N- or -CR-;

10

R₂ is selected from the group consisting of:

-hydrogen;

-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;

-C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl;

-aryl;

15

-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl -O-C₁₋₁₀-alkyl;

-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl-O-C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl; and

-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl or C₂₋₁₀ alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected

from the group consisting of:

-OH;

20

-halogen;

-N(R₃)₂;

-CO-N(R₃)₂;

-CO-C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;

-N₃;

25

-aryl;

-heteroaryl;

-heterocyclyl;

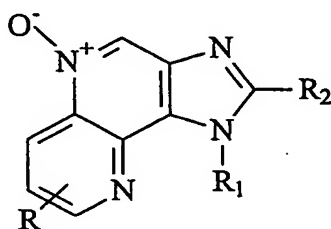
-CO-aryl; and

-CO-heteroaryl;

each R_3 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_{1-10} alkyl; and

each R is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen,
5 C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{1-10} alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl,
or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

23. A compound of formula



10 wherein

R_1 is selected from the group consisting of:

- hydrogen;

- C_{1-20} alkyl or C_{2-20} alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more
15 substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-aryl;

-heteroaryl;

-heterocyclyl;

-O- C_{1-20} alkyl,

20 -O-(C_{1-20} alkyl) $_{0-1}$ -aryl;

-O-(C_{1-20} alkyl) $_{0-1}$ -heteroaryl;

-O-(C_{1-20} alkyl) $_{0-1}$ -heterocyclyl;

- C_{1-20} alkoxycarbonyl;

-S(O) $_{0-2}$ - C_{1-20} alkyl;

25 -S(O) $_{0-2}$ -(C_{1-20} alkyl) $_{0-1}$ -aryl;

-S(O) $_{0-2}$ -(C_{1-20} alkyl) $_{0-1}$ -heteroaryl;

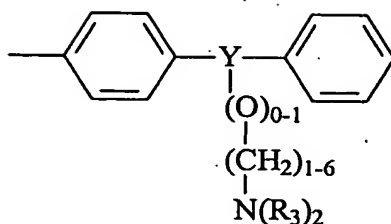
-S(O) $_{0-2}$ -(C_{1-20} alkyl) $_{0-1}$ -heterocyclyl;

-N(R_3) $_2$;

-N₃;
oxo;
-halogen;
-NO₂;
-OH; and
-SH;

-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl-NR₃-Q-X-R₄ or -C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl-NR₃-Q-X-R₄ wherein Q is -CO- or -SO₂-; X is a bond, -O- or -NR₃- and R₄ is aryl; heteroaryl; heterocyclyl; or -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl or C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-aryl;
-heteroaryl;
-heterocyclyl;
-O-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl,
-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
-C₁₋₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl;
-S(O)₀₋₂-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;
-S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
-S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
-S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
-N(R₃)₂;
-NR₃-CO-O-C₁₋₂₀alkyl;
-N₃;
oxo;
-halogen;
-NO₂;
-OH; and
-SH; or R₄ is



wherein Y is -N- or -CR-;

R_2 is selected from the group consisting of:

-hydrogen;

- C_{1-10} alkyl;

- C_{2-10} alkenyl;

-aryl;

- C_{1-10} alkyl -O- C_{1-10} -alkyl;

- C_{1-10} alkyl-O- C_{2-10} alkenyl; and

- C_{1-10} alkyl or C_{2-10} alkenyl substituted by one or more substituents selected

from the group consisting of:

-OH;

-halogen;

- $\text{N}(\text{R}_3)_2$;

-CO- $\text{N}(\text{R}_3)_2$;

-CO- C_{1-10} alkyl;

- N_3 ;

-aryl;

-heteroaryl;

-heterocyclyl;

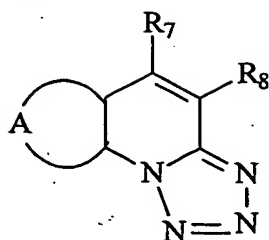
-CO-aryl; and

-CO-heteroaryl;

each R_3 is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C_{1-10} alkyl; and

each R is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{1-10} alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

24. A compound of formula



wherein

A is =N-CR=CR-CR=; =CR-N=CR-CR=; =CR-CR=N-CR=; or
=CR-CR=CR-N=;

R₇ is OH, halogen, or NHR₁,

R₁ is selected from the group consisting of:

- hydrogen;

-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl or C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more
substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-aryl;

-heteroaryl;

-heterocyclyl;

-O-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl,

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;

-C₁₋₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl;

-S(O)₀₋₂-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;

-S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;

-S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;

-S(O)₀₋₂-(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;

-N(R₃)₂;

-N₃;

oxo;

-halogen;

-NO₂;

-OH; and

-SH; and

5 -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl-NR₃-Q-X-R₄ or -C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl-NR₃-Q-X-R₄ wherein Q is -CO- or -SO₂-; X is a bond, -O- or -NR₃- and R₄ is aryl; heteroaryl; heterocyclyl; or -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl or C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-aryl;

-heteroaryl;

10 -heterocyclyl;

-O-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl,

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;

15 -C₁₋₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl;

-S(O)₀₋₂ -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;

-S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;

-S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;

-S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;

20 -N(R₃)₂;

-NR₃-CO-O-C₁₋₂₀alkyl;

-N₃;

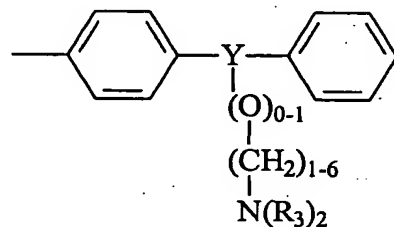
oxo;

-halogen;

25 -NO₂;

-OH; and

-SH; or R₄ is



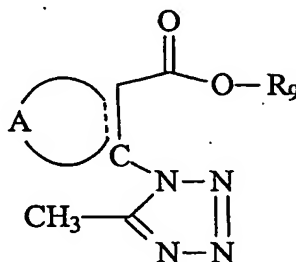
wherein Y is -N- or -CR-;

R_8 is H, NO_2 or NH_2 ; and

each R is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C_{1-10} alkyl, C_{1-10} alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

25. A compound of formula

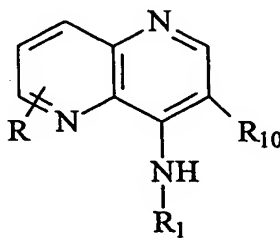


wherein

A is $=N-CR=CR-CR=$; $=CR-N=CR-CR=$; $=CR-CR=N-CR=$; or $=CR-CR=CR-N=$ and

R_9 is H or C_{1-10} alkyl.

26. A compound of formula



wherein

R_1 is selected from the group consisting of:

$-C_{1-20}$ alkyl or C_{2-20} alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from the group consisting of:

-aryl;

-heteroaryl;

-heterocyclyl;

$-O-C_{1-20}$ alkyl;

-O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
 -C₁₋₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl;
 5 -S(O)₀₋₂ -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
 -N(R₃)₂;
 10 -N₃;
 oxo;
 -halogen;
 -NO₂;
 -OH; and
 15 -SH;

-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl-NR₃-Q-X-R₄ or -C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl-NR₃-Q-X-R₄ wherein Q is -CO- or
 -SO₂-; X is a bond, -O- or -NR₃- and R₄ is aryl; heteroaryl; heterocyclyl; or -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl or
 C₂₋₂₀ alkenyl that is unsubstituted or substituted by one or more substituents selected from
 the group consisting of:

20 -aryl;
 -heteroaryl;
 -heterocyclyl;
 -O-C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;
 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
 25 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
 -O-(C₁₋₂₀alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
 -C₁₋₂₀ alkoxycarbonyl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂ -C₁₋₂₀ alkyl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-aryl;
 30 -S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heteroaryl;
 -S(O)₀₋₂ -(C₁₋₂₀ alkyl)₀₋₁-heterocyclyl;
 -N(R₃)₂;

-NR₃-CO-O-C₁₋₂₀alkyl;

-N₃;

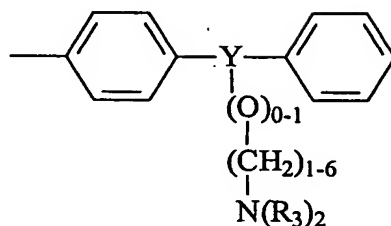
oxo;

-halogen;

-NO₂;

-OH; and

-SH; or R₄ is



wherein Y is -N- or -CR-;

each R₃ is independently selected from the group consisting of hydrogen and C₁₋₁₀ alkyl;

each R is selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, C₁₋₁₀ alkyl, C₁₋₁₀ alkoxy, halogen and trifluoromethyl; and

R₁₀ is -NO₂ or NH₂;

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.